GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1906
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
AWARENESS ABOUT HEALTH WELFARE SCHEMES
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the assistance being provided by the Government to the poor and needy patients;

(b) whether the poor and needy patients are facing lot of difficulties in getting their medical facilities provided by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) if so, whether the Government has made any arrangement for creating awareness about various health welfare schemes of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (e): Under Rastriya Arogya Nidhi, financial assistance can be given to patients, living below poverty line who are suffering from major life threatening diseases, to receive medical treatment at any of the super speciality hospitals/institutions or other government hospitals. Furthermore, to provide assistance to the poor and needy patients with special focus on marginalized and underserved populations in 18 high focus states(eight erstwhile EAG states, eight North Eastern states and states of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh), government has also launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).NRHM envisages establishment of a fully functional, decentralized health delivery system with sharper focus on intra and inter-sectoral convergence for optimal utilization of resources.NRHM seeks to ameliorate the difficulty faced by needy patients in getting medical facilities and provides accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population.NRHM provides overarching umbrella to existing National Programmes of Health and Family Welfare including RCH-II, National Disease Control Programmes and Integrated disease surveillance. Further, it addresses the issue of health in a sector-wide manner addressing sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water as basic determinants of good health. As part of NRHM, states have undertaken wide dissemination of entitlements of community at various levels. Extensive capacity building of health providers has also been undertaken to respond to the entitlements as per the Indian Public Health Standards under NRHM.